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NEW PAYPHONE COMPENSATION RULES WILL GO INTO EFFECT ON JULY 1, 2004

CC DOCKET NO. 96-128

On October 3, 2003, the Commission released a *Report and Order* in CC Docket No. 96-128 (*Payphone Order*) in which the Commission adopted new rules concerning the compensation of payphone service providers (PSPs) pursuant to section 276 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.¹ A summary of the Commission's *Payphone Order* was published in the Federal Register on November 6, 2003 establishing the effective date for the rules as the first day of the first calendar-year quarter following approval of paperwork collection requirements by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).² The Commission received OMB approval on Wednesday, May 5, 2004.³ Accordingly, the effective date of the *Payphone Order* and its new rules is July 1, 2004.

To provide carriers time to transition to the new rules and to meet OMB requirements, the Commission in the *Payphone Order* also re-adopted its previous rules adopted in the *Second Order on Reconsideration* on an interim basis until the new rules become effective.⁴ Therefore, as of July 1, 2004, the interim rules, currently set forth at 47 CFR 64.1300(a), 64.1310(a), and 64.1310(b) are no longer effective.

For further information regarding this proceeding contact Denise Coca, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-0574.

¹ *Implementation of the Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*, CC Docket No. 96-128, Report and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 19975 (2003) (*Payphone Order*).

² 68 FR 62751-01 (Nov. 6, 2003)

³ OMB Approval No. 3060-1046 (May 5, 2004).

⁴ *Implementation of the Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*, CC Docket No. 96-128, Second Order on Reconsideration, 16 FCC Rcd 8098 (2002) (*Second Order on Reconsideration*); remanded sub nom., *Sprint Corp v FCC*, 315 F.3d 369 (D.C. Cir. 2003)